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# Blavatnik Awards *for* Young Scientists

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Driving the Next Generation of  
**SCIENTIFIC INNOVATION**

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# BLAVATNIK AWARDS

for **YOUNG SCIENTISTS**

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honor exceptional young scientists and engineers by celebrating their extraordinary achievements, recognizing outstanding promise, and accelerating innovation through unrestricted funding.



“Encouraging and supporting young scientists is essential if we are to successfully address society’s challenges. By honoring these young individuals and their achievements we are helping to promote the breakthroughs in science and technology that will define how our world will look over the next century.”

— **LEN BLAVATNIK**

Founder and Chairman of Access Industries and head of the Blavatnik Family Foundation



## KEY FEATURES OF THE Blavatnik Awards

- Recognize and support outstanding young scientists early in their careers when additional funding and recognition have the greatest impact on their work
- National program offers the largest unrestricted prizes ever created for early-career scientists
- Open to researchers working in more than 60 different scientific and engineering disciplines
- Honorees selected based on the quality, novelty, and impact of their research, and their potential for further significant contributions to science
- Connects its alumni with a network of their peers throughout the United States



*2013 Blavatnik Regional Awards honorees*

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“Young scientists drive scientific discovery and innovation. They feel urgency and impatience. They think creatively and boldly. While we must support promising scientists at all levels, young scientists are a critical resource that we must nurture for the good of the whole scientific enterprise.”

— **ERIC LANDER** Director of the Broad Institute of Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Blavatnik Awards Scientific Advisory Council Member

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## Blavatnik Awards Alumni

### SEEDING SUCCESS

Past winners and finalists of the Blavatnik Awards have gone on to achieve significant career success. Most (79%) of the postdoctoral honorees are now tenure-track faculty, and 93% of past faculty honorees are now tenured. Some of the awards and honors garnered by the Blavatnik Awards alumni include: Gates Grand Challenge Award, Guggenheim Fellowship, MacArthur “Genius” Award, IEEE Computer Science Technical Achievement Award, Vilcek Award, Shaw Prize, and NIH Director’s Pioneer Award.

### BUILDING A COMMUNITY

Starting in 2014, the Blavatnik Family Foundation and the New York Academy of Sciences will host an annual Symposium for Blavatnik Awards alumni to encourage networking, exchanging of ideas, and potential collaborations.



*2013 Blavatnik Regional Awards honorees Emily Hodges, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, and Samie Jaffrey, Weill Cornell Medical College*

# our HISTORY

2007

The Blavatnik Awards are created to celebrate the outstanding postdoctoral and faculty scientists who work in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.



2012

The Blavatnik Family Foundation doubles the prize money for winners and finalists starting in 2013.



*2012 Blavatnik Regional Awards honorees and Len Blavatnik*

2013

The Blavatnik National Awards are created. The Awards grant three \$250,000 prizes in Life Sciences, Physical Sciences & Engineering, and Chemistry to faculty scientists.

“The Blavatnik Awards are very special because they are given at the stage of a scientific career when recognition is most meaningful and has a long-lasting impact. This was certainly the case for me.”

— **RUSLAN MEDZHITOV** 2007 Blavatnik Awards faculty winner, Professor of Immunobiology at Yale University, and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator



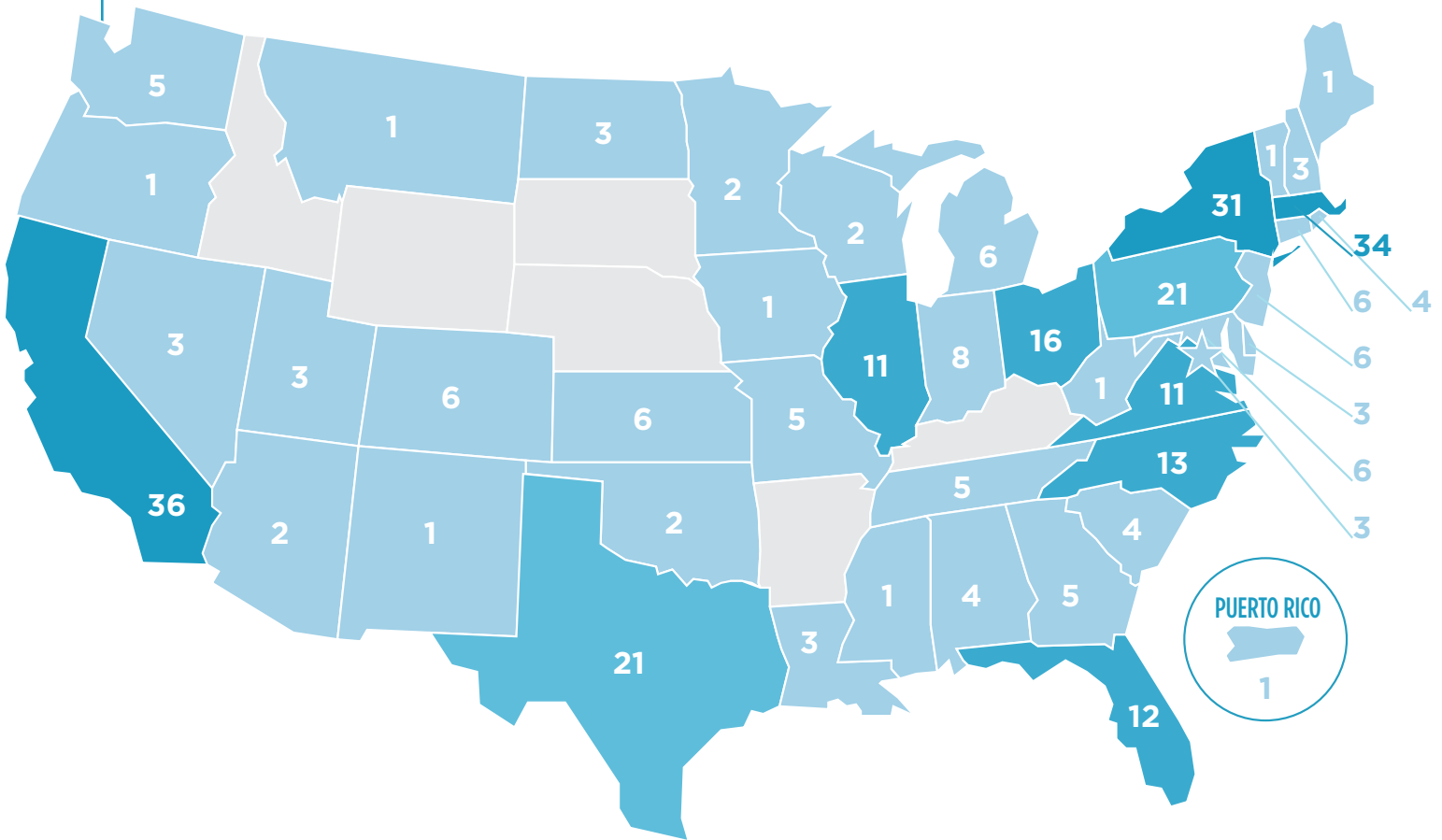
*2013 Blavatnik Regional Awards honoree Bi-Sen Ding*

2014

The Blavatnik National Competition receives over 300 nominations representing more than 160 American universities and research institutions from 42 states.

The Blavatnik Regional Competition receives over 220 postdoctoral nominations from 32 institutions in the tri-state area.

## NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS *for the* 2014 BLAVATNIK AWARDS



# Blavatnik National Awards for YOUNG SCIENTISTS

Celebrate America's most innovative and promising faculty-rank scientists and engineers. Nominations are accepted from U.S.-based research institutions and the Blavatnik Awards Scientific Advisory Council. Every year, one nominee in each category will be named a Blavatnik National Laureate and awarded \$250,000 in unrestricted funds.

- Blavatnik National Award for Young Scientists in Life Sciences
- Blavatnik National Award for Young Scientists in Physical Sciences & Engineering
- Blavatnik National Award for Young Scientists in Chemistry

Blavatnik National Laureates are selected by the jury composed of some of the world's most distinguished scientists and engineers.


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# Blavatnik Regional Awards for YOUNG SCIENTISTS

Acknowledge and celebrate the excellence of outstanding postdoctoral scientists who work in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Winners and finalists are selected by a group of senior scientists and engineers from institutions primarily in the Northeast. Winners are awarded \$30,000 each and finalists are awarded \$10,000 each in unrestricted funds.



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There are a few awards for young scientists, but almost all of them are based on proposals that you submit, and not on the actual work that you do as a young scientist. The Blavatnik Awards program is true recognition of the work of young scientists; it is unique in that sense. There is no equivalent.”

— **MICHAL LIPSON** 2010 Blavatnik Awards faculty winner, MacArthur Fellow, and Given Foundation Professor of Engineering at Cornell University

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## ABOUT THE Blavatnik Family Foundation



The Blavatnik Family Foundation is an active supporter of leading educational, scientific, cultural, and charitable institutions in the United States, Europe, and throughout the world. The Foundation is headed by Len Blavatnik, an American industrialist and philanthropist. Mr. Blavatnik is the founder and Chairman of Access Industries, a privately-held U.S. industrial group with global interests in natural resources and chemicals, media and telecommunications, emerging technologies, life sciences and real estate. For more detailed information, please visit: [www.accessindustries.com](http://www.accessindustries.com).

OPPOSITE LEFT: 2013 *Blavatnik Regional Awards* honorees and Len Blavatnik





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The Awards program provides exceptional opportunities for winners and finalists to serve as role models to the nation's youth—showing that young, creative individuals can indeed be the face of science.”



— **ELLIS RUBINSTEIN**

President and CEO of the New York Academy of Sciences

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The New York Academy of Sciences is an independent, not-for-profit organization that since 1817 has been committed to advancing science, technology, and society worldwide.

With more than 22,000 members in 100 countries around the world, the Academy is creating a global community of science for the benefit of humanity. The Academy's core mission is to advance scientific knowledge, positively impact the major global challenges of society with science-based solutions, and increase the number of scientifically informed individuals in society at large. Please visit us online at **[www.nyas.org](http://www.nyas.org)**.

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